From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 13:34:00 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 08:34:00 -0500

Message-Id: <950516093134_120409703@aol.com>

From: CarlHeintz@aol.com Subject: BA's for sale

The following are for sale:

HQ 170 - 12 hr clock, 160- 6mtrs, outstanding face, no corrosion, with origina 1 manual. \$ 180

Heath HX-10 Marauder transmitter, with original manual, flawless and it runs super. \$ 250

Hallicrafters SX-100 with original manual, in outstanding condition, most of the tubes are original Hallicrafters (they silk screened their name on the tubes, no less!) Front pannel is perfect, case has a few hairline scratches which should buff out. Only modification is addition of a phono plug on rear pannel to accommodate a scope. \$350

R-388 - fair condition, could use clean-up. Everything's there, runs OK, but no top or bottom plates. Includes military rack cabinet \$240

Stoddart NM-20 monitor receiver with Huge VU meter, separate 110 power supply, hermetically sealed, with 150 KC -32MC coverage, lots of knobs and even a carrying handle on top. \$80

Rack cabinets - one is an Apache cabinet with a front pannel upon which a tape recorder (BSR reel to reel) has been mounted, one is a Bud, 10" high, with Chrome strips on top and bottom, and hinged lid. Both are 14 " deep \$40 for the pair

Email CarlHeintz@aol.com. Items are in Kansas and can be UPS'd anywhere.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 13:22:16 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 08:22:16 -0500

Message-Id: <199505161315.JAA25028@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us> From: afpgreg@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us (Paul V. Gregory)

Subject: Bug Bits

Aye, mates....

My Vibroplex need the adjustable weight for controlling keying speed. Mine's impossible (too QRQ is an understatement!) for me without it.

Does anyone have a spare to sell, or know if one might be purchased from Vibroplex? If the latter, I need Vibroplex's (Mitch's) new phone number.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 16:48:40 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 11:48:40 -0500

Message-Id: <9505161646.AA24060@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>

From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)

Subject: Re: Bug Bits

> My Vibroplex need the adjustable weight ... one might be purchased >from Vibroplex? If the latter, I need Vibroplex's (Mitch's) new phone number.

Vibroplex Co, Inc. 11 Midtown Park, E. Mobile, AL 36606-4141

Voice: 334-478-8873 Fax: 334-476-0465

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899 (National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS) 301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 12:30:23 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 07:30:23 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505161422.A2461-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>

From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>

Subject: Cold War gear.

If somebody has an interest in Sovjet-bloc military radios, I have some for sale.

73 Rag OZ8RO, Copenhagen

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 12:36:55 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 07:36:55 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950516053324.3895D-100000@crl4.crl.com>

From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>

Subject: Re: Cold War gear.

I would be interested in someone comparing the Russian radio's to whats available world wide.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 12:51:51 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 07:51:51 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505161425.A7147-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>

From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>

Subject: Re: Cold War gear.

On Tue, 16 May 1995, Steven Wilson wrote:

> I would be interested in someone comparing the Russian radio's to

> whats available world wide.

>

I dont have access to radios `world wide`. Hi. But I will be glad to provide info to whoever takes on a comparisson.

73 Rag OZ8RO also LA5HE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 19:02:30 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 14:02:30 -0500

Message-Id: <199505161900.UAA28303@aith.chemeng.ed.ac.uk>

From: Jack Ponton <jwp@chemeng.ed.ac.uk>

Subject: Re: Colins TCS-20 system

As a couple of people have told me, there was never a TCS-20..

What I have is the RX from a TCS-12.

Jack

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 11:55:58 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 06:55:58 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505160652.A806-0100000@mm1001.theporch.com>

From: Kevin J Pease <kevin@mm1001.theporch.com>

Subject: Re: Component Aging

The iron slugs in slug tuned coils definately age over time. That is why old Collins PTO's generally need re- adjustment for kc per shaft revolution. I don't remember if the permiability goes up or down. I have an old national receiver with air core coils. It is in perfect calibration. only slight adjustment of thge caps was required for that.

Kevin J Pease
WB0JZG Mt Juliet, TN.
mm1001.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 14:22:28 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 09:22:28 -0500

Message-Id: <199505161415.KAA27908@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us> From: afpgreg@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us (Paul V. Gregory)

Subject: Re: Crystals?

>CW Crystals who runs an ad every month in the back of QST is your >solution. Cost about \$5 each. >de stan $ak\theta b$

Anyone got a fone # and address on this one?
--Paul

C-W Crystals
Marshfield, MO 65706
James C. Owen, III
National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
Bldg 225/B360
Gaithersburg, MD 20899
1-301-975-5623

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 02:00:09 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 21:00:09 -0500 Message-Id: <9505170156.AA01075@kali> From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com> Subject: Deerfield (Rochester) NH report

Well, the rain didn't stop me from going to the 1995 Spring Deerchester (Deerfield, now at Rochester) NH fest on 5/12 and 5/13.

I was there from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday with a couple of SW DX friends. We had a good time... It's a shame that they don't allow the \$5 buyers' admission until after 3:00 p.m. on Friday. It used to be noon! I returned with my brother, around 7:30 a.m. on the rainy Saturday.

The thing that impressed me most was a lack of receivers. There were very, very few to be seen. Conversely, there were a lot of transmitters for sale. My personal interest is in the tube stuff, so I didn't pay too much attention to the transistorized stuff.

One fellow had a dozen classic boatanchors transmitters and receivers, all clean looking but way out of my price range. I don't think there was anything below \$250!

The fellow who had the wet Ranger for sale in '92 had a Hallicrafters Skyrider Panoramic panadapter scope out on his table, for \$35. I considered it, even though it was raining (again) -- but on closer inspection, I passed. The dealer returned a while later, and I almost asked him if he'd take \$20, but then I figured he'd throw one of his \$60 battered Vibroplexes at me. Should I have chanced it? At least the scope had a solid case, unlike the Johnson!

My friend was interested in reliving his youth through a Hallicrafters SX-62 and R-46 speaker... Grimy, but at least no topsoil on the receiver. \$225 with the speaker, \$175 without. He passed...

I did not see ANY of the following: SX-100, FRG-7 (xistors), NC-303, HRO-60, R-390A, Heath Mohawk, or HQ-180... Usually one or more of these shows up.

Someone had a very interesting wartime HRO -- it could have been an RAS -- for \$175. (Steve B., post the info you got from the nameplate!) The interesting thing was it was the rackmount radio, with the power supply, and ALL the coils, for \$175. I forget how many coils were included but they overflowed the top-hinged coil box, so it may have been nine. It was gone on Saturday. We were both tempted. The paint job would have needed some work.

I saw a Meissner 1942 150B Exciter made for the military on Saturday morning. It was grey, had a drawer almost full of coils, and was \$35. Another temptation! Another dealer had a pretty good looking 1948 EX model of the Signal Shifter for \$75. See the April 1995 Electric Radio for pictures. I didn't see any Sideband Slicers.

One dealer had a Collins 310-B-2-A (he said??) exciter for \$275. I never saw one before. There were also a couple of Collins fixed frequency (aviation?) transmitters for sale.

Someone had a GPR-90 in fair shape, and a Racal RA-17 (US model; I forget the nomenclature) for \$225 each.

I didn't price the B+W 5100 without case... I saw two Heath sideband (transmitting) adapters. One had dark green (later) Heath knobs [was this original?] and another, for \$35, had the chrome knobs to match the Apache transmitter. Someone had a B+W sideband adapter with a speaker in the front panel -- I assume this was a receiving adapter? Several DX-60/HR-10/HG-10 combinations.

I picked up a Boonton RF probe, model RF-1, for \$5. The dealer had several more (Friday) but didn't have any by Saturday. Now... I assume this isn't the fancy one with the diode, but what should I do with it? It has a banana lead set, but it ends in cut wire, and the probe itself has no tip or back...it's just a cylinder threaded at each end. I assume it mounts in between whatever the original multimeter probe was. Can anyone supply the missing parts to me on this?

One dealer had many sealed boxes of military ME-61/GRC field strength meters, and I bought one for \$30. 1974 production, covers 1.5 to 24 Mc and includes a headphone jack, whip antenna, and 0-5 scale meter. I already connected it to my antenna and used it as a crystal set (grin) but it will come in handy for transmitting. I wish I had gotten this fellow's business card -- other people on the List might like one of these. I checked the Fair Radio Sales catalog but I don't see these listed.

The amount of compu-junk was amazing. Most of it was cards just tossed into boxes, and MFM hard drives sitting in Saturday's rain. At least the stereo and broken VCR quantities were down.

Someone had a nice looking HRO-50T1 and speaker (number of coils unknown) and 75A-3 and speaker, \$450 each. Ouch.

I picked up a Hammarlund S-100 speaker for \$5. Anyone know how to strip/paint one of these? <grin> Hopefully the color will match my HQ-170...

There were a lot more ARC-5 things there than I remember seeing in years past. Sorry, I didn't take notes on those. Actually, it was raining a constant mist until about noon Saturday, so I didn't take any notes at all. They would have been unreadable!

One of the things that I spotted soon after leaving the car on Friday followed me home after making one circuit of the field. It's a Central Electronics 20-A phasing exciter. More in the next post about this.

I also saw a sorry looking CE-100V transmitter. The guy claimed it worked, and wanted close to \$200. It _was_ the first one I'd seen in person, however.

There was a dearth of Drake equipment. I saw two 7-line stations, and one T-4X/R-4C combination with speaker and supply for \$200. I bought a 2-C in nice physical shape (sensitivity seems low) from the same fellow. The repainted-panel SPR-4 that was there last fall at \$100 was back this year at \$125. I guess rub-on lettering increases in value with age. <grin> I didn't see any 2-A or 2-B receivers, and only one TR-4.

Outside of the HROs, there was darned little National gear there. A friend had a NC-183 for sale, and it was sold by the time we made the first circuit on Friday. There were a couple of sorry looking SW-54s at high prices.

The Collins stuff? Forget it ... Almost \$900 for a KWM-2A. I didn't even get close to some of the stuff. (Though I will say that they were clean and wrapped in plastic.)

Boatanchor test equipment was pretty well represented, with Tek scopes of many vintages. Not too much mil test gear that I could see, though.

Well, I hope you enjoyed this disjointed report! I'll be back

for the Fall '95 show. Hopefully the equipment I'm interested in won't get rained on.

--Andy Wallace

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 05:18:11 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 00:18:11 -0500

Message-Id: <800601337.1056062@AppleLink.Apple.COM>
From: FRANCIS4@applelink.apple.com (Francis, Dexter)

Subject: Fest-er-ing

The only annual swap fest held in Colorado Springs is coming up this weekend. If anybody is looking for something in particular I'd be glad to keep an eye open and give the seller your name/address/phone number. Just reply by e-mail so I'll have hard copy to give them.

-df

p.s. I'm looking for a 2 meter base/mobile rig, up to 6 channels, Xtal control is fine. Shift and PL would be nice but not critical, as it will be used mostly for packet. \$35 to \$50 would be great.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 05:58:35 1995

Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 00:58:35 -0500

Message-Id: <9505170556.AA28877@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>

From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)

Subject: Galaxy GT-550

Gang,

I have the opportunity to buy a Galaxy GT-550 at a `make offer' price. What would be fair (to me ;).

This is my first BA since my Novice days with the Heath DX-60 / HR-10 pair.

Here are the particulars (written by the current owner):

It's a Galaxy GT-550. 80 thru 10. (No 29-29.7).

550w ssb, about 200-225w out on cw.

No factory rit but I jury rigged a relay and trimmer

cap. Works fine but it's not for the faint of heart to learn!

Hey, I worked over 200 countries with it! (all cw). Over 120 on 40m cw.

Tubes: 12bz6, 6hg8, 6ew6, 12ba6, 6gx6, 6ke8, 12at7, 6ej7 6gk6, 6lb6 (2), 0B2 & 0C2.

Semi qsk.

What is the availability of the above tubes? I've got goosebumps just thinking about getting back on the air with a BA. QRP has been a challange and has taught me a world of patience but it's time to contribute to global warming again.

Oh, any way to get this pup on 160M? I imagine there is a bank of xtals - one for each band. Maybe I could add a switch so as to go from the 80 xtal to an added 160 xtal.

73 from Hawaii, Jeff NH6IL (ex WA6QIJ) (ex QRP)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 04:15:16 1995

Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 23:15:16 -0500

Message-Id: <950515224515_119997915@aol.com>

From: Jodaanve@aol.com

Subject: Hamfest information needed

Hi gang!

Is anyone aware of an upcoming hamfest in the Minneapolis area? I've heard that there is a large swapmeet held sometime this month, but have been unable to determine when and where. If someone could post an announcement it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Dave-WB9EGZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 17:45:17 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 12:45:17 -0500

Message-Id: <mosB0eK-001807C@aupair.cs.athabascau.ca>

From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)

Subject: Here is that EME artical I just botched

I tried to bore you all with an artical on high powered DOD EME but I botched it. Here is the insertion.

Blush...

----- begin insert

Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.homebrew

Subject: Re: 2m parametric amp/message for K4MSG.

References: <phb.800212789@melpar> <1995May15.143651.74656@ucl.ac.uk>

Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 17:36:32 GMT Message-ID: <phb.800559392@melpar>

Lines: 52

davek@medphys.ucl.ac.uk (Dave Kirkby) writes:

>Dave Kirkby,
>Dept. of Medical Physics,
>University College London,
>11-20 Capper St,
>London WC1E 6JA.

>tel: 0171-380-9700 >fax 0171-380-9577

Got it, Dave, it'll be on its way tomorrow. A couple of comments on the article:

The article claims "3 dB noise figures at 432 MHz without the use of a circulator," and goes on to note that this is "no improvement over the better uhf transistor amplifiers" (and remember, this was written around 1972). The article claims that the paramp shows most promise above 1000 MHz, but of course the mid-70s development of the GaAsFET (initially *very* expensive) and subsequent drop in price over the past decade have given us the low-cost preamps we enjoy today. So, to be truthful, the paramp has been overtaken by technology, but if you want to dabble in a little RF "black magic" (like, getting s stable pump signal which, for 432 MHz, is around 4 GHz; in the "good old days" this was done with a receiving-type klystron, a "black-magic" device if ever there was one....:-)

During the late '60s I was Maintenance CPO on the USS BELMONT (AGTR-4) as an ETC, and we had the Navy's shipboard "moonbounce" or EME system, the AN/SRC-33(XN-1). The system used a 2300 MHz uplink and 1800 MHz downlink, with a 12 kw, 4-cavity power klystron in the transmitter and a 16-foot, X-Y pedestal dish with circular feed. The receiver front end had - you guessed it - a paramp, and it *was* a tricky beast to

adjust, commercial equipment or not.

BTW, we ran two chnnels of 100 WPM RTTY via moonbounce to either Hawaii or Cheltenham, MD (depending on who could see the moon best); the shore stations ran 12 kw to 65-foot dishes. With input from the ship's gyro and Roll/Stabilization Data Set, our antenna would track the moon completely cross the sky from 5 degrees above horizon to 5 degrees above horizon.

It was, as we used to say, "like a landline," and to those of us all-to-familiar with the vagaries of HF propagation (especially from South America, where the nearest COMMSTA was Panama, San Juan or Gitmo) it brought tears of joy to our eyes. It was also a "window on the future" and gave us some idea what it might be like when satcomm became a reality (now taken for granted by most, I expect).

73,

Paul, K4MSG

----- end insert

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those

Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"

** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 14:10:57 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 09:10:57 -0500

Message-Id: <199505161408.AA23823@shore.shore.net>

From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>

Subject: INQUIRY RE: FT-243 vs HC-17 crystals

Recently, Damon (dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu) asked of this forum:

>Can someone tell me the difference between these two crystals, and will >this HC-17 indeed work in my Viking II?

Yes indeed - the FT-243 holder is larger and has a removable cover plate. The HC-17 holder is a sealed metal can. In both holders the pin diameters and spacing are identical. In other words you can use the HC-17 crystals in equipment designed for the FT-243.

73,

Michael Crestohl, KH6KD/W1

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 00:06:15 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 19:06:15 -0500

Message-Id: <9505161700.ZM5108@autopsy.corp.sgi.com> From: "Greg Anders" <anders@autopsy.corp.sgi.com>

Subject: Johnson Challenger Prices

I'm interested in purchasing a Johnson Viking Challenger and would appreciate any input regarding the range of prices applicable for this rig on the used market today. FYI, my market space geographically is Northern/ Central Ca. FYI, the one unit I've seen so far is listed at \$165.

Thanks,

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 06:41:10 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 01:41:10 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950516013735.2561D-100000@dialin.ind.net>

From: Bob Stafford <bstaffor@dialin.ind.net>

Subject: Re: Magnet wire

How do you remove the coating on magnet wire? Well, this might sound off the wall but I tried it and it works. Place the wire end on an aspirin and then put your soldering iron to it. Smells like #\$%@#\$ but it works and is safe.

-.-. --.- -.-. --.- -.. . -. -. ----. ..- ... -.. aka 'CircuitRider' Bob Stafford - N9USD

Teegarden, IN 46574

(219)784-3790 - MALE breast cancer is a reality -

** Email- bstaffor@dialin.ind.net **

--, --- -,, ,,, --, ,-, ,- -,-, , - --- -,-- -,--

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 16:39:26 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 11:39:26 -0500

Message-Id: <mosBPbB-001803C@aupair.cs.athabascau.ca>

From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken) Subject: military hollowstate moonbounce

The following was forwarded to me by my buddy Ross VE6PDQ (the silicon jockey) who, unlike myself, is not too proud to read the wreck.radio.* newsgroups.

Can you get this system surplus?

73,

Paul, K4MSG

------ in insert ------

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those

: tuques we wear, our heads Athabasca University

Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"

** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 06:27:39 1995

Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 01:27:39 -0500

Message-Id: <950516230848_121357133@aol.com>

From: StuSanders@aol.com Subject: National HRO Coils

Need set or single plug-in coils for Navy RDG rcvr. Unit is motor driven but uses same coils as early HRO. I have the 0.9-1.7 Mc rack, need 1.7-4? to listen to 160 meters. Also need schematic for this radio. Any help?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 11:07:59 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 06:07:59 -0500

Message-Id: <950516070218 120313724@aol.com>

From: KD0HG@aol.com

Subject: New Western Electric Tubes

A follow up on the re-entry of of Western Electric into tube manufacture (from Glass Audio, Jan, '95). The new WeCo tube manufacturing plant will be located at Allentown, PA. Most of the equipment will be moved there from the original plant site in Kansas City. Western Electric has re-hired several of the women workers who did tube assembly to teach the new workers "the arcane secrets of hand-assembling these devices..." Glass Audio also reports, "...one of the UK's most prestigous valve manufacturing facilities will be reopening in the forseeable future..." Wonder who? Genalex, Mullard? It just gets stranger by the day, folks. <bill, DKOHG>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 00:46:44 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 19:46:44 -0500

Message-Id: <950516204518_121142708@aol.com>

From: KD0HG@aol.com Subject: PT0 for R-389

I am sending this message at the request of Ray Osterwald, NODMS. He has the opportunity of purchasing an R-389 missing its PTO, and he's looking for leads on one. I don't know what the nomencalture for one is... Ray has a number of military and civilian BAs for trade bait. Please contact Ray directly at (303) 571-2644 (voice and V/mail) with any hot tips....bill, kd0hg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 14:26:59 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 09:26:59 -0500

Message-Id: <950516102435_120457702@aol.com>

From: JosephWP@aol.com Subject: Stuff for Sale

I have the following for sale or trade (vintage or mil surplus gear only):

Heath Seneca 100.00

Six & Two Meter AM transmitter. Good condition.

AN/PRC-90 w/battery 105.00

Air Sea rescue set. 243.0 & 282.5 Mcs. With several batteries. Works. Good condition.

R-962/ARR-52 20.00

Sonobouy receiver 152 - 175 Mc. FM Transistorized. Can easily make a 2 Meter monitor receiver.

With schematic

TS-382 65.00

Audio signal generator. Calibrated output. Very good condition.

All, plus shipping.

Also have a large stock of tubes, please ask for needs.

Joseph Pinner + Lafayette, LA KC5IJD

EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 07:04:54 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 02:04:54 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950516020032.2561G-100000@dialin.ind.net>

From: Bob Stafford <bstaffor@dialin.ind.net>

Subject: SWAN HF-700S

I've had this SWAN 700S for about a year and a half now. I really need to get into it and do some restoring. My problem is that I'm very new to all this and could use an Elmer for the project. Any volunteers? suggestions?

-.-. --.- -.-. --.- -.. . -. -. ----. ..- ... -..

Bob Stafford - N9USD aka 'CircuitRider'

Teegarden, IN 46574

(219)784-3790 - MALE breast cancer is a reality -

** Email- bstaffor@dialin.ind.net **

--, --- -,, ... --, ,-, ,- -,-, , - --- -,-- -,--

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 00:20:59 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 19:20:59 -0500 Message-Id: <9505170017.AA07097@tedb>

From: Jim Specht <specht@test.rb.unisys.com>

Subject: Thanks

I'd like to thank everyone for the input on the methods for stripping magnet wire...I was able to repair the coil I was working on and the receiver is back on line.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 02:59:35 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 21:59:35 -0500

Message-Id: <m0sBZDj-003BBiC@moon.earthlink.net>

From: jlb@earthlink.net Subject: Treasure Hunting

I have the chance to buy the following equipment but need to know a little bit more about each piece before I buy the lot.

HP 3591-A Frequency Selective Voltmeter, \$125. The unit is missing a module, manuals and all the cables. The missing module is possibly a recording module. I guess there may have been some kind of ticker tape printer to plot x and y axises. I think the unit will work without the recorder because the power switches and control knobs are on the existing panel. Also there is a dB meter and LED's for readouts. Cosmetically it is in good condition. Has anybody used one of these? Any comments?

HP 4260A or 4620A (My memory is failing me.) This is a HP Universal Bridge (RCL).It measures:resistance, capacitance,inductance,the "Q" of an inductor and the dissipation factor "D" of a capacitor. \$100. This is an interesting piece of gear to me but I am wondering if I wouldn't be better off with a newer type RCL bridge that not only reads the value of the components but will test them too. For instance BK makes an RCL bridge that also will test capacitors at 2 different frequencies; however it cost about \$200.

Lastly, this is something made by RF Plasma Products. A model MN3000. I don't know what it is. Inside it looks like an antenna tuner. I has a 2 vacuum variables: 7 to 1000pf at 5KV and the other is 12 to 500pf at 15KV. There are a couple of coils some coax and a water tube also inside. There is a coax input and no coax output that I could find. This thing is weird but the components alone are worth \$200 .(If they work) How can I test this beast before I pay for it? The vacuum variables look clear with no signs of RF burn. Any ideas, info, comments?

Joe AA6WG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 13:03:47 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 08:03:47 -0500

Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.950516080041.grant@nq5t>

From: gyoungma@gtetel.com

Subject: Wanted: HRO-60TS Speaker

I'm looking for the companion speaker to the HRO-60. Anyone have one in good condition that you would part with?

Grant/NQ5T

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed May 17 02:20:32 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 21:20:32 -0500

Message-Id: <9505170215.AA06047@internet1.lotus.com>
From: Alan Richer <Alan_Richer.LOTUS@crd.lotus.com>

Subject: Why do I do this to myself?

With all of the "collector" action I've been seeing lately, and all of the arguments $\ \ \,$

about what ham radio is and isn't, I thought I'd post this little missive I wrote for myself

a while back. Sometimes we get too close to the stage and miss the magic...

ajr/N1TWY

I have to stop reading netnews, I really do. Every time I get into a new group, I get into a project I shouldn't, or some new adventure befalls me.

This particular one started easily enough. I wandered into rec.ham.radio.misc, partly to see what was going on, partly to see if anybody was actually still down in the bands where I used to play. Soon, a warm wave of nostalgia overwhelmed me, mostly from hearing them talk about Farnsworth-sent code, 40-meter CW, and all of the terms that filled my adolescence. I had to have a receiver, but not just any receiver. I had to have an ARC-5.

For the uninitiated, the ARC-5/BC454 series of receivers were originally built to be installed in WWII aircraft, and were called "Command Sets". After the war, these compact, sensitive receivers flooded the market cheaply, and many a budding ham operator plunked down his \$9.95 for one of these surplus gems. With the addition of a gain control, headphone jack, BFO switch and a power supply, you had a receiver that was hard to match commercially at many times the price.

Mind you, these things haven't been built since 1947, but they were still being sold surplus well into the mid-1960s. My own first station was a pair of these receivers, along with their matching transmitters. Cheap, effective and useful, though not top of the line. They'd been converted long before I got them, and though battered and cranky, were still happily useful for a teenager with the ham bug.

So I tossed out an advertisment, basically stating: "WANTED: ARC-5: For nostalgic old fool". A few days later I received email from one Barry Wittemore, at Sanders Corporation, offering 5 (!!!) of the old darlings for the cost of hauling them away. I gratefully accepted, and soon drove home with a front-seat full of battered old WWII iron. Thanks a million, Barry!

Boy, what a mixed bag. I didn't think it was even POSSIBLE to make that many modifications to a receiver... but I was DEFINITELY not complaining. I was lucky to find anything at all, and these were in good shape for being a half-century old.

Of the six (he miscounted. I wasn't complaining), two seemed essentially original, with the minimum modifications needed to operate. The other four had

been more liberally kluged, having 6-meter converters and other fairly severe modifications added to them. One even had a squelch circuit wired onto the back! Life was going to get amusing with this bunch of iron, so I did what I do best. I read and procrastinated.

I read and reread all of the old conversion documentation that Barry had given me, as well as scanning the pile of receivers to see who looked most likely to be operational after all these years. It wasn't easy remembering all of the old terminology and symbology, and I began to doubt my ability to bring these old beasts back to life. Finally, driving home one evening, I decided to stop procrastinating and start doing. How hard could it possibly be, I told myself, to rig up a power supply for one of these old beasts. A transformer, a couple of diodes, a little magic, and off you go, right? Wrong...

A transformer was easy enough to handle. A dual-primary 110/220 volt transformer makes a great filament transformer, if you use a single input winding and use the other input winding as a B+ supply. A quick stop at the local electronics junkyard provided that and a couple of BIIIIIG capacitors for filtering. A well-stocked junkbox from a friend's grandfather coughed up the diodes and miscellaneous hardware, and a stretch of 22AWG multiconductor wire connected to an old dynamotor base ran the power to the receiver that had been least-modified. The tube cases were rusty, but it looked intact. I could only hope...

Three hours and two episodes of smoke generation later, I plugged the kludged power supply into the receiver and flipped on the power switch. In the darkened room the filaments began to glow. Once they were bright, I advanced the gain control, expecting to hear nothing, but hoping for sound nonetheless. In the headphones. I heard a 60-cycle hum (gotta get some chokes in the B+), then the rushing of static. As I advanced the tuning knob, I began to hear heterodyne whistles, and the patter of code. A flip to the BFO switch, and the tones of 5-WPM code from the 80-meter CW band appeared. Farther up the dial, and SSB conversations filtered in. Still farther, and I began to hear the programs of the international shortwave services of the BBC, mainland China, Ra dio France, the US and others.

It was magic, and I was 14 again.

I walked the world in seven-league boots, stopping here and there to eavesdrop on a conversation or listen to a news broadcast or music. Sitting there with this old radio, with a spool of hook-up wire for an antenna, I remembered what had attracted me so to radio to begin with: the magic of being elsewhere, adventuring even if only through the insubstantial waves of the electromagnetic spectrum.

After an hour or so, I pulled the plug, and watched the magic fade with the dying glow from the tubes. The genie was back in its glass vacuum bottle for a while, but I could see that I'd be visiting him again...

Alan J. Richer - 8/12/94

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 19:30:24 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 14:30:24 -0500

Message-Id: <199505161929.0AA19535@uro.theporch.com>

From: bgraham@tecnet1.jcte.jcs.mil

Subject: WTB: RF Sig Gen

I'm in the market for a "cheap" rf sig gen. Something at least a step above the Knight kit 2-transistor level, but not gold plated.

tnks

Bill ..'

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue May 16 21:32:37 1995

Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 16:32:37 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950516142112.23469A-100000@crl6.crl.com>

From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>

Subject: Re: WTB: RF Sig Gen

Pick up a URM-25. Yes it's a BoatAnchor. Works well from 10 khz to 50 mhz. I think I paid about \$150 for a check out one at Fair Radio. de stan ak0b